

Application No.: 10/694,581

Docket No.: 19036/39691

REMARKS

Claim 3 has been made independent as new claim 5. At the top of page 4 of the Final Rejection, it is stated that claim 3 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. New claim 5, therefore, is allowable.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the end beam particulars from the third paragraph of allowed claim 2. Since the Fehrenbach '627 patent neither discloses nor suggests the claimed support brackets having outer ends connected to the right and left side frames, or a center bar connected, through the deformation absorbing means, to the support bracket, or a center bar having an instrument attachment portion, it is submitted that claims 1 and 3 also are allowable.

It is submitted that the amendment to claim 1 does not present new issues since it merely incorporates features from original claim 2, which have already been searched.

It is submitted that all claims are now of proper form and scope for allowance. Early and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 19036/39691 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: July 26, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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